

REMARKS

I. Specification

The Specification has been amended to correct an illegible structure at page 3, which is fully supported by the priority documents. A substitute Specification (clean and marked up) is attached herewith. No new matter has been added and the corrected structure is fully supported by the application as filed.

II. Claim Status

Claims 1-15 are pending in the present Application. Claim 5 has been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer, claim 1 has been amended, and no claims have been added, leaving Claims 1-4, and 6-15 for consideration upon entry of the present Amendment. No new matter has been introduced by these amendments. Reconsideration and allowance of the claims are respectfully requested in view of the above amendments and the following remarks.

III. Claim Rejections

a. 35 U.S.C. § 112, First Paragraph

Claims 1-4 and 6-15 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph for lack of enablement. The Examiner states that the Specification, acknowledging that it is enabling for an alcohol as in Formula I, does not reasonably provide for other alcohols having no aromatic ring. The Examiner asserts that during the process an aromatic ring is not formed and that non-aromatic alcohols such as propanol, butanol, or hexanol and any other non-aromatic alcohols cannot be used to form styrenic olefins. Applicants respectfully traverse. Without conceding the correctness of the Examiners position or the need for amendment. Claim 1 has been amended to incorporate the limitation found in claim 5 (defining the alcohol starting material as that of Formula 1). Additionally the formation of the styrenic olefin is implied when the alcohol of Formula 1 comes in contact with the catalyst and solvent in a reflux state. Claim 1 is therefore

not indefinite. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection

b. 35 U.S.C. § 112, Second Paragraph

Claims 1-15 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. The Examiner contends that the claimed process is recited as a process for styrenic olefins but there is no step forming the styrenic olefin recited and that the mechanism is unclear. Applicants respectfully traverse. Without conceding the correctness of the Examiners position or the need for amendment. Claim 1 has been amended to incorporate the limitation found in claim 5 (defining the alcohol starting material as that of Formula 1). Additionally the formation of the styrenic olefin is implied when the alcohol of Formula 1 comes in contact with the catalyst and solvent in a reflux state. Claim 1 is therefore not indefinite. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection

IV. Conclusion

It is believed that the foregoing amendments and remarks fully comply with the Office Action and that the claims herein should now be allowable to Applicants. Accordingly, reconsideration and allowance are requested.

If there are any additional charges with respect to this Amendment or otherwise, please charge them to Deposit Account No. 06-1130.

Respectfully submitted,
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